

JPJMS Bullying Policy:

The faculty, staff, and administration at Joel P. Jensen Middle School do not tolerate any type of bullying.

What is Bullying?

Bullying is unwanted, aggressive behavior that involves a real or perceived power imbalance. Bullying can be verbal, written, physical, or electronic. In order to be considered bullying, the behavior must be aggressive and include:

- Power over you with intent to hurt
- Causing harm, fear, abuse, or property damage
- Repeated behavior

Reporting

Students play the most important role in our attempt to have a safe school. We recommend that all students and parents report bullying in one of these ways:

- Directly to the administration or trusted adult in the school
- Use the SafeUT app which can be found on our website jpjms.org

Consequences

When a potential bullying issue happens in or effects school, the administration asks that information be given to them with details about the incident. The administration will interview witnesses and those involved in the incident. The administration will then determine whether it did occur, if it is indeed an instance of bullying, and what discipline will take place. A range of consequences may take place, but if this is the first episode of bullying, the most important part of the discipline is that the bully receives education about what bullying is, why the episode falls into that category of bullying, etc. Initial consequences for first offenders may include everything from in-school suspensions, to home suspensions.

Due to federal privacy law (FERPA), the school administration may never tell the victim or victim's parents/guardians details regarding the discipline of the bully. If bullying continues, discipline increases in intensity, which may include taking the bully to a district-level hearing to determine if he/she should have a change in school placement.